

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT/JP2003/003413



Translation

PCT

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference FP0305PCT	FOR FURTHER ACTION See Notification of Transmittal of International Preliminary Examination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/416)	
International application No. PCT/JP2003/003413	International filing date (day/month/year) 20 March 2003 (20.03.2003)	Priority date (day/month/year)
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC H04L 9/08, G09C 1/00, G06F 17/30, 17/60, 12/14		
Applicant JAPAN MEDICAL DATA CENTER CO., LTD.		

1. This international preliminary examination report has been prepared by this International Preliminary Examining Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.

2. This REPORT consists of a total of 4 sheets, including this cover sheet.

☐ This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, i.e., sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications made before this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT).

These annexes consist of a total of _____ sheets.

3. This report contains indications relating to the following items:

- I ☒ Basis of the report
- II ☐ Priority
- III ☐ Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
- IV ☐ Lack of unity of invention
- V ☒ Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
- VI ☐ Certain documents cited
- VII ☐ Certain defects in the international application
- VIII ☐ Certain observations on the international application

Date of submission of the demand 09 July 2003 (09.07.2003)	Date of completion of this report 05 April 2004 (05.04.2004)
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/JP	Authorized officer
Facsimile No.	Telephone No.

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No.

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I. Basis of the report

1. With regard to the elements of the international application:*

- ☒ the international application as originally filed
- ☐ the description:
pages _____, as originally filed
pages _____, filed with the demand
pages _____, filed with the letter of _____
- ☐ the claims:
pages _____, as originally filed
pages _____, as amended (together with any statement under Article 19
pages _____, filed with the demand
pages _____, filed with the letter of _____
- ☐ the drawings:
pages _____, as originally filed
pages _____, filed with the demand
pages _____, filed with the letter of _____
- ☐ the sequence listing part of the description:
pages _____, as originally filed
pages _____, filed with the demand
pages _____, filed with the letter of _____

2. With regard to the language, all the elements marked above were available or furnished to this Authority in the language in which the international application was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

These elements were available or furnished to this Authority in the following language _____ which is:

- ☐ the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (under Rule 23.1(b)).
- ☐ the language of publication of the international application (under Rule 48.3(b)).
- ☐ the language of the translation furnished for the purposes of international preliminary examination (under Rule 55.2 and/or 55.3).

3. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application, the international preliminary examination was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing:

- ☐ contained in the international application in written form.
- ☐ filed together with the international application in computer readable form.
- ☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form.
- ☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form.
- ☐ The statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed has been furnished.
- ☐ The statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has been furnished.

4. ☐ The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

- ☐ the description, pages _____
- ☐ the claims, Nos. _____
- ☐ the drawings, sheets/fig _____

5. ☐ This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).**

* Replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report since they do not contain amendments (Rule 70.16 and 70.17).

** Any replacement sheet containing such amendments must be referred to under item 1 and annexed to this report.

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V. Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Claims	1-13	YES
	Claims		NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims	4, 12	YES
	Claims	1-3, 5-11, 13	NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	1-13	YES
	Claims		NO

2. Citations and explanations

Document 1: JP, 2002-245164, A (MITSUBISHI ELECTRIC CORPORATION), 30 August 2002
 Document 2: JP, 2002-149497, A (NTT ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY CORP.), 24 May 2002
 Document 3: JP, 2002-279062, A (TOSHIBA CORPORATION), 27 September 2002
 Document 4: JP, 11-45304, A (NIPPON STEEL CORPORATION), 16 February 1999

The subject matter of claims 1 through 3 and 9 through 11 does not involve an inventive step on account of document 1 and document 2 or document 3 cited in the ISR.

Document 1 discloses an information management device that conceals personal information used for receipt identification information by a personal information concealment means and replaces the original information with the concealed information. Using a constitution that associates personal information and a unique code generated by a unidirectional function on the basis of the personal information, as described in paragraph [0011] of document 2 and in Fig. 9 and paragraph [0065] of document 3, as the personal information concealment means for the information management device could easily be conceived by a person skilled in the art.

The subject matter of claims 5 and 13 does not involve an inventive step on account of documents 1 through 3 and document 4 cited in the ISR. Using a means for encrypting data output to another device as described in paragraph [0014], paragraph [0034], and paragraph [0035] of document 4 and a means for associating and recording pre-data-conversion data and post-data-conversion data as described in paragraph [0011] of document 2 as the data output means and memorizing means of the document 1 system could easily be conceived by a person skilled in the art.

The subject matter of claim 6 does not involve an inventive step on account of documents 1 through 4. Using a unique code generating means for generating a unique code with a unidirectional function on the basis of personal information as described in document 2 or 3 in the personal information concealment means of an information management system wherein an information center is connected to an information management device via a communication line as described in document 1, and using the means for encrypting data output to another device via a communication line as described in document 4 in the data output means of the system of document 1 could easily be conceived by a person skilled in the art.

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PCT/JP03/03413**Supplemental Box**

(To be used when the space in any of the preceding boxes is not sufficient)

Continuation of Box V:

The subject matter of claims 7 and 8 does not involve an inventive step on account of documents 1 through 4. Paragraph [0005] and paragraph [0012] of document 2 describe retrieving data from a plurality of data using a unique code as a key.

The subject matter of claims 4 and 12 are not described in any of the documents cited in the ISR, and would not be obvious to a person skilled in the art.